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#### Why?

The present attitude of the Central Powers seems to resolve itself into ething like this: That while they may or may not have in mind definite terms of peace they greatly desire a parley by means of which the diplomats may arrange, in the interest of dvilization and humanity, some acemmodation which will stop this awful war.

The attitude of the Allies is plainly avowed in London, in Paris and now Petrograd: "Too late! We, too, are working and fighting for peace, but the peace we want is a permanent peace, with full justice to the innosat victims." Austria once sent an ultimatum to

erbia. The date was July 23, 1914. A conference then would probably have averted the war. On July 27 Sir En WARD GREY, in the interest of civilimation and humanity, proposed the conference that would have kept the world's peace. On July 28 he explained that his idea in proposing a conference was not arbitration but a private and informal discussion to ascertain what suggestion could be made for a settlement. On every successive day until August 1 he was urging upon the Imperial Government at Berlin cooperation between Englead and Germany for the preservation of the peace of Europe. On July 31 | wrote: he asked Berlin whether the German overnment was prepared to engage give as to Belgium "could not but disclose a certain amount of their plan of campaign in the event of war en-Grey was still laboring manfully to bring about the conference. On the morning of August 4 Germany violated Belgian territory.

### President Wilson's Opportunity.

The literacy test for immigrants is the child of prejudice and selfishness. Its imposition at any time in the nation's history would have retarded the progress of the country and deprived us of thousands of loyal and evoted citizens who contributed by their own efforts and through their offspring to the upbuilding and defence of the United States. Three Presidents-CLEVELAND TARE

and Wilson-have vetoed this disastrons, unstatesmanlike restriction. To Mr. Wilson another opportunity is depleted labor markets, industries immigrants must impress on the inteligence of disinterested observers the folly of locking the door to any and friendly disposition.

Mr. Wilson has already given the final evidence of his understanding of this project. We hope no presumed mandate of legislative reiteration will cause him to abandon his

### Dr. Brady's Surrender.

and justice must regret to learn that road" rejected without a hearing. In Dr. William Brady of Elmira has other words several plays which had abandoned his effort to recover the been acted with profit during long cent that he lost in a slot machine periods here failed altogether to infor vending drinking cups on a train. Dr. Brady has informed the up-State Public Service Commission that as ence to the quality of the plays. Auhis wife recently obtained a cup from diences never even gathered to see a slot machine on the same railroad what they were like. without cost, he considers himself reimbursed and he withdraws his fa- the manager than this preconceived has been made in this country.

This surrender of a great principle is abborrent to those who had state of mind may be concerning the Fatherland. With German ideals and watched Dr. Brady's crusade with play interests the manager less when eager interest. Are two wrongs to the cost of admission was a condition be permitted to make a right? And precedent to the formation of a judghow about the property rights of ment. But to make up its mind withmarried women? In all equity the out the ceremony of buying a ticket loser of the cent has no more than is the cruellest form that public in an academic interest in the cent's difference can take. worth recovered by his wife. The estigate the affair.

by his wife, mere man will become merer and merer. And women would never be able to recover all the lost pennies from the subway gum machines because men are always in front of the mirror, adjusting cravats. There is also a considerable number of people who would like to know how Mrs. BRADT did it.

Egg Transportation Beyond the Power of an Embargo. Whoever is interested in Brooklyn

not?) will delight with us in an account of what is described as a remarkable phenomenon. It comes to tralia, Harbinger of Light, a journal But attendance upon them was never of psychology, occultism and spiritual philosophy. The Harbinger got it from the International Psychic Gazette, an English publication in whose pages the account appeared as from the pen of a Mr. Horace LEAF. Mr. LEAF in turn credits it to the records of one who was known as "General Lozzison," a gentleman "holding a high rank in the British army." This "General Lorsison," it appears, was one of a group of three persons called the Trinity Circle, the two others being "a wonderful apport-medium of the south of England and her husband." The name Trinity Circle was given to the group by the spirits who worked with them

To this group came within one year "over a thousand apports," tangible evidences of the power and generosity of the spirit world: vases from the East, a dagger made of Chinese coins. woven grass and a carved box 22 inches square. But even the circumstance of the dagger's arrival, the loose coins being "tied together by unseen hands in the presence of the sitters," does not bring the thrill that comes with the story of the adventure of the Brooklyn eggs.

The Trinity Circle was only one of a number of groups, scattered about the world-Melbourne, Spain, India, Syria, China, Brooklyn. They sat always at the same hour, controlled by the same spirit band. "The Brooklyn medium," says Mr. LEAF, "was a gentleman of remarkable power, very cultured and rich. It was he who used to select the eggs for transmis-If you consider the word eggs may have been cheaper then than they are now. But "General LORRISON" appreciated them, for he

"I get as many eggs as we need in this house regularly each week. We have not to respect Belgium's neutrality so long bought a single egg for several months as no other Power violated it. On the past. My cook has got so accustomed mme day Sir E. Goschen reported to find her week's supply in the dining to him that the German Government room on Monday morning that if she thought that any reply they might missed them any morning she would think something had gone wrong. I put my hat up in a corner of the room besuing." On August 1 Sir Enwand from one to two dozen eggs in it at the fore a seance begins, and always find close. They are a present from the Brooklyn medium and come from his own hen house."

trol laughed. He said it came "from trying to do more than one knew The rich Brooklynite was in the habit of collecting the eggs in perindisposed, he left that important task to the control and that personage, as the General calls him, took the first eggs to hand, including three nest eggs! So one point is established: that a spirit control, when it comes to collecting eggs, has no supernatural powers of candling; he would take

selected. In what year the eggs made their south of England we do not know. to be given to reject it; and that The narrative adds that the Brooklyn crippled by lack of workers, and ago. In Flatbush, maybe, some garage the Manchu dynasty. commercial conditions exposing our sits where once was the henhouse and present and future need of able bodied the junitor stamps o'er the dead roots initiated. Cuswen and others thought 1.000 years old, excavated some years ago Rosalind Amelia Young, a native daught. of the Baldwin tree and cannot break that the notation would displace all set on the grounds north of the church. individual of good health, honest mind sends gold or rubles in their stead to artificial tongue would displace the along with the church. the circle across the sea.

### Plays and Geography.

The metropolitan managers who always bring their wares to market with an eye on the cities outside New defence of what has been and should York as a possible field for future remain a cardinal principle of Amer- profits have had some puzzling experiences during the present season. They have lived to see some of the properties which they had consid-All right thinking persons, forward ered most valuable in that outlying looking citizens and lovers of truth and profitable region known as "the terest the public in other cities. The most pathetic feature of this feast of hopes disappointed was the indiffer-

> Nothing is more discouraging to prejudice, which keeps the public away from the theatre. What its

As there has been found to be uncompromising feminists should in- common quality to the plays which failed to meet with the same success Again, think of the unmoral effect on their travels that they found here, man expressions subjected him to se-

stolen, walls a passenger to a rail- ager's philosophy a new theory. Thehave been so indifferently received on as r. teacher and author. their travels that they were brought home after a brief trial.

This quality common to all these plays that met with success here, but not elsewhere, made them dramas of a kind that could be safely visited in New York by strangers who would never have admitted at home that and eggs and spirits (and who is they had seen such a piece. They were all, in other words, more or less piquant and more or less of the kind to be taken as a part of a visit to THE SUN from the Melbourne, Aus- a wicked but instructive metropolis.

to be thought of at home. The American managers are no alone in the necessity of facing this difficulty. Paris used to supply the world with plays, if not in their original form at least in adaptation. So local has the interest of the present generation of Paris playwrights become, however, that it is said their works are no longer understood at Versailles. Thus has the difficult task of the successful theatre manager taken on new hardships. How to please New York and Keokuk in the same degree with the same play is as much of a problem as it ever was.

### The Singers of Scales.

A hundred years ago JOHN CUBwen was born, and in consequence there is now in progress among some music lovers a celebration of the centrying to get to sleep.

"Do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, si, do!" she carols. You reply with a curse such as WAGNER bestowed upon the gold if she is singing Volapuk. She is not. The prime responsibility for her mis demeanor must be sought some way back in musical history.

Long ago there was a man named Guipo of Arezzo. He divided the scale into groups of six notes. It "rich" superfluous, remember that happened that there was a hymn to St. John which ran as follows:

"Ut queant laxis, Resonare fibris Mira gestorum Famuli tuorum Solve pollutt Labii reatum

[Sancte Johannes.] The first syllable of each line be gan a note higher than the one before. These syllables were seized upon as names for the notes. Later the seven note scale was introduced we came to have the scale the young woman sings so persistently.

Now the Tonic Sol-fa is nothing One morning there was dismay in but an adaptation of this scale in-Why is the peace conference in the the General's menage. Three stale tended to make it easy for ordinary tic weakness. interest of civilization and humanity, eggs were found. That very night the persons to sing music at sight. Sarah then so arbitrarily if not arrogantly Trinky Circle demanded an explana- ANN GLOVER and the JOHN CURWEN rejected, now so ardently desired by tion from the spirit control. The con- aforesaid are responsible for it. They son. On the night in question, being "doh" sung an octave higher, "de" outrages only from the highest huwith a flat mark over the vowel letter "e" meant "doh" sharp and "da" was sible to write music on a typewriter had there been any at that time. A mathematical aspect was imparted to this, in Chicago, would be typical the business by putting exponents on May weather. rots and spots for nearby hennery notes which introduced a modulation. Thus "ad" signified that the tone which had been "soh" was hencewonderful trip from Brooklyn to the forth, for a space, to pose as "doh." Various punctuation marks and spaces indicated rhythm and accents. opportunity comes at a time when medium sent, too, apples from his The whole resembled closely Espegarden; so perhaps it was a long time ranto written in the secret cipher of

their sleep. And if the generous man other forms of writing music. They still lives and has eggs he probably might as well have hoped that some rich and inexhaustible English lanhelp the young woman to get through correctly. But think of the numbers of persons who ought never to sing vention of the Tonic Sol-fa! The celebration of John Curwen's centenary cannot become general.

Dr. HUGO MÜNSTERBERG, whose suc den death occurred yesterday at Cambridge, was one of the most brilliant scholars that Germany has sent to this country. Coming to Harvard in versity of Freiburg in southern Germany, the greater part of his career as a psychologist, teacher and author His death removes one of the most

talented of the defenders of his thoughts he has shown a loyal sympathy. He spoke and wrote strongly it was a dollum that he inhabited. in defence of Germany's course in the war, of the Kaiser's actions, and he held England in a large degree responsible for the war by fostering race hatred in France and Russia. His utterances often brought him into direct conflict with public opinion in this country, and his pre-Ger-

upon corporations. My bag has been there has come into the theatre man- vere criticism by the faculty and alumni of Harvard. Professor Hugo road detective. Say no more, is the ories, it might be explained, already MUNSTER ERG's defence of his Fareply, your wife can get another just abound in his world. There are the therland was scarcely productive of as good the next time she makes a ories to explain everything from the more friends for Germany than were trip. If his wrongs are to be avenged failure of one fellow's play to the the early efforts of the professors of success of the other's. The latest in the great German universities. He this number of theories is meant to will be more favorably remembered explain why the plays which were so for his attempts to make studies in successful here last winter should psychology popular and by his ability

### Ultimate Tom.

The Hon. THOMAS R. MARSHALL of Indiana and Washington has tackled the high cost of living and solved its problems. He will abolish the middleman, dissolve the State created corporations and move the population from New York to the Arizona lettuce fields and the Georgia peach orchards. To another the difficulties in the way of such a readjustment of affairs might be discouraging; not so to Mr. MARSHALL:

"For the Government is the source of ultimate power, and it can act and will

The Vice-President is too modest Knowledge is power; he is the principal reservoir of knowledge. From him, more ultimate than the ultimate itself, the all saving might of all gov ernments consequently derives; how blessed the nation that has him unin terruptedly on tap!

Germany made war on her own erms but cannot make peace in the same way.

It seems to be increasingly evident that King Alcohol will not have a seat at the council table at which the future of the world is to be decided.

It can be said of the author of There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old tenary of the Tonic Sol-fa. This is Town To-night," who died last week. truthfully described as "one of the that he wrote the most inspiring song most British things in music." It is of his day. The pacifists may observe that it excited base, warlike emodirectly responsible for the young tions, but it had a smash and a bang woman in the New York apartment to it and it was strictly American. house who sings scales when you are Even the epic of Caser Jones has not caught the coat skirt, blew it out and Island displaced it in the affections of the

The plentifulness of venison in blest Oregon is cutting down the cost of in the cool green depths of the river | meals. In these parts with a view to said and terrapin instead of potatoes might be substituted. Limited disarmament would certainly

> e effective in the maintenance of peace if it were accompanied by lim-All of Germany's innumerable diplo-

> matic blunders have been due to the fact that she has persistently failed to understand the psychology of neu-The price of eggs has reached the

to eat any eggs owing to high prices cowpath, and crowded me. And the Over here in Berkshire people have shut wind blew his coat, and it tore zip!
down on eags of their own accord without being told.—The Berkshire Courier, and I was half paralyzed numb with of Massachusetts. They act as though

they believed they were able to mind own business, set their own without the intervention of official authority.

Whatever may be the truth about

he's going to swear off, turn over a new leaf and lead an upright and saw fit to write "doh, ray, me, fah, worthy life Pancito Villa seems to soh, lah, te, doh." They wrote out have taken a hint from certain Eurotunes on a single line; "d, r. m" pean strategists who inform the world meant "doh, ray, me," "d" meant that they are perpetrating barbaric manitarian motives.

The recent break in the stock market "doh" flat. It would have been post may make a few lambs available for

Remember, impatient citizen, that

A disturbed city, when skies and men unload stock at the same time.

#### THE URN ON GRACE CHURCH LAWN.

To the news that Grace Church has een weatherproofed that it may exist to delight future generations there is a little pendant which reads:

and one of the four now in existence, is ter of the island, and published by the proofed against the New York climate

But is it an amphora? Fremont Riguage evolved by many generations of der's newly issued "New York City." guage evolved by many generations of the state of the sta field of limited usefulness. It may and excavated at Rome. That sounds more reasonable.

enough to hold a man. This recalls the notion of a writer and who will be led to try by the in- of romantic and exciting stories whose imagination was fired by a contempla wanted to write a story (maybe he as done it by this time) of a daring thief who should break into the vault f a bank, be chased and fired upon. clude his hunters and take refuge in the vase in the churchyard. The very prove a sufficient safeguard. The day light would come, and soon Broadway would be roaring with traffic, yet the 1892 after a short service at the Uni- thief with his pockets full of treasure must crouch in the sun heated urn for hour on hour till nightfall. A picturesque story; it is not easy to think of

> Our friend the romancer was probably not aware that his idea was not wholly original. No less a person than Diogenes dwelt in a vase like that at Broadway near Tenth street. The tra-Some ancient pictures show him lolling in his mammoth vase while exhorting Alexander the Great to "stand

an ending worthy of it.

A Long Dry Road. From the Christian Herald. After January 1, with prohibitive laws going into effect in Virginia and Georgia, the automobile route from Washington to Jacksonville, Pla., will lie whelly through

### THE WINKLEHAWK.

I am the torn place in an overcoat— ruinous mean little tear, an angular discontinuation of continuity. I am a

A winklehawk is a thing of interest to the makers and wearers of clothes; material especially for the metaphysicians. Is a hole a thing?

The coat is an overcoat, a proud and distinguished garment. Before I what were I? Before it attained coathood it was wool on an old, proud, wicked ram. the patriarch-O Norval! of a flock of Grampian grazers. Was embryonic in his fleece? (I have dim consciousness of a former existence.) In the tangled chaos of wool were my form and being predestined and foreordained?

shepherd, work for the shearer, for the toilers in the woollen mill and the man hands before it found its place in the scheme of things. It was proud, because of its origin, and the tariff paid on it, and the work it made in the world. And the man who were it was well satisfied with life, and with imself-also, with the coat, What he thinks of me, that's another story

Now that the coat has a tear in itbut stay: since the clothes surgeon's needle has closed the wound, am I as ergo sum! There is plenty of wear left in the coat, but it will no longer do for its first owner.

But to my story: We were on our way home after a pretty bad day in the Street, when up there came a poor shivering fellow, carrying sheets of tin. He dodged and we dodged-but a cruel corner of the tin caught in the goods. and-I came into visible being!

The coat man was angry. The tin man was scared. My man was eloquent, too; unquotably. His quick words were sharper than the tin. They made Queens county, has anything to do with deadly virtues and refinement, sensibilthe tin had made in the coat. And I am no negligibility of a winklehawk definition "oyster," says of "Blue Point take. He knew that all the good things either!

Nobody carries sheets of tin in the street for fun! of a little mischlevous breeze that pressed it firmly against the sharp cor-

ner of the tin. Well, my man said to his wife that for cating raw. They are simply out-evening: "A muddleheaded fool cut grown quahuags " " The epithet my cont with tin! "Who are you," is wrongly but very generally supposed Rhine. You toss about and wonder economy canvasbacks instead of pork | but never mind-and who do you work 'neck' which is conspicuous in the comfor?" He told me. I called up his mon clam."
boss, and I hope they fire him—the Of course all American systems have boob, tearing people's clothes! Why. the coat's ruined, and it'll cost me a clams have necks so little that they are week's drinks and smokes to get a new absent! But only on certain menus are hope they fire him, but-"

. . . . . .

Hanging here in the closet, I, the winklehawk, wonder: Did that fellow go home and say: "Wife, life is My boss sends me out with ten tin sheets, heavy, just not too big to get an arm over; and a big, crushing dignity of a proclamation in Hudson, looking fellow. Broad-and-Wall all N. Y., where the Mayor has issued an over, comes swaggering up like he official document requesting citizens not owned the street since it was a Dutch on the tin. He asked me who I was, and I was half paralyzed, numb with A strangely unprogressive, old fash- cold and not much of a tunch in me. ed folk, these dwellers in the hills and I told him. And he's the kind, I could tell by the heavy jowl of him. 'ud ask a man's bose to fire him for less. And the five kids, half dressed as the child in the father's arms. The and half fed! But say, it's too damn father is the allied forces. The daughter sympathy and understanding than he prehend. He is never obscure. tables and administer their own es- and half fed! But say, it's too damn had about that coat, 'twere a beafity. Eve an eye for such goods, you re- lovely as some of the furies of mythi- Howells never wrote a page that re- sends a veritable multiplex member the fine job in the old country, cal times, representing Enlagaria and sembled either the Russian or the along a single wire. Mr. before we came over the water-why, Turkey. The forest way should be American's fiction. Germany's peace proposition, it is a mebbe I handled that wool year besiden with the bones of Serbia, Bei- James is a masterly psychologist and well to pursue the meanings fact that the German Crown Prince fore last' And say, girl, the price of continues to be an exhibition of dynas- that coat 'ad pay our rent for a out by your wenderful artists? To est English critics this is acknowlmonth, and put shoes on the kiddies' hear the Erl King sung, and then to edged, and generously, got more excuse in the boss had to send | states would conjure it up in any one's me out with a load like that and mind

> Well, say-it's me, the winklehawk, again now that my man's wife has child was dead." had me patched out of existence (if you choose to take that view of it) I'll just bet you three stitches evens that mighty few more overcoats 'll be bought and sold before she does that coat up in Christmas style and sends it along to the address the tin man gave!

such costs all about!"

And I can just hear him say: "Lord, here I was working for myself all the But say-is a winklehawk a winkle hawk after you sew him up?

## AN ISLAND CHRONICLE.

### The Story of Pitcairn as Written by a Native Daughter.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SEC! FOR the information of "Long John Silver" I The urn, we are told, has been land, Cal., 1894. The book is felty

illustrated. Miss Young is now married and resides daughter, Miss Emily McCoy, was recently at 246 West avenue, Bridgeport, Conn., the home of the Graduate Nurses Club, where she prepared to return to Pitcairn as a trained nurse and dentist with her scales and to sing a tune would be a little dolium, and a dolium | She gave the population of the Island as was a large earthenware jar big 195

#### TRI-STATES, December 15. Suffrage Wins a Recruit.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: May I say a few words for the banner bear-ers in the House of Representatives on

I have never been in favor of woman affrage, nor have I seen any reason to fight it. That one incident alone has raised the cause very high in my estimation. It showed a quiet determination to insist on recognition after prom ise. No demonstration was made, none wished for.

It was merely a reminder to one whose agility as a sidestepper in every issue has become a matter of history. BOUND BROOK, N. J., December 14.

> A Buckeye State Ideal. From the Cleveland Plain Dealer

Some fellow is going to strike a golden sean between cheap plentifulness and high priced scarcity, some day, by success! rossing the English sparrow with the A Prophet Away From Home.

From the Topeka Capital.
The Hon, Link Steffens, who spoke t opeka last night, says the Mexicans are High Cost of Non-Site Sidewal Knicker-Why don't you put your ashes

# Mrs. Atherton Arouses Misgivings as

to the Durability of Fame.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: I fame but a bauble, a something that has behind it only a belief, an opinion of the time and that will not endure? One would think so after reading Gertrude Atherton's recent criticism in THE SUN. "My grandfather," said she, "had an and crammed with such airy nothings as Hume, Thiers, Rollin, Plato, Herodo tus, Xenophon, Thucydides-to mention

but a few I can recall offhand." smong the old authors mentioned will feel surprised and pained at Mrs. Atherton's iconoclastic thrust. But is Mrs. Atherton correct in her opinion? I althing dangerous and slavish in bowing to any isolated ipse dixit. Will collective thought and opinion agree with the accomplished Californian writer?

GLEN RIDGE, N. J., December 16.

#### NAMES OF BIVALVES. Swim in Definitions From Little Neck to Blue Point.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Long Islander and long time reader of THE SUN, I must, with all respect to Artemus Ward, Esq., take a hand in the cause it allows the two English future. His is the Cerebral Comed "Little Neck" and "little-neck" contro- critics-and how many

For argument's sake suppose THE SUN's editorial article was wrong. Why then, James as a temperamental Puritan—ist doubled by a psychologist. His soul Mr. Ward, are not all hard clams called one is forced to capitalize the unhappy is not a solitary pool in a midnight little necks if the comparative elongation of the neck is the mark of difference be- is jess puritanism in New England ten or cloud-shadowed; yet in whose tween soft and hard? convincing reductio ad absurdum, maybe,

but it tends that way. does he Laodiceanly cling to Blue Point, tion. For him the puritan tempera-Suffolk county, as the original home of the syster, but deny that Little Neck. To ascribe to puritanism the seven the clam?

The Century Dictionary, under the oyster": "The name is popularly but of life are not in the exclusive pos-wrongly supposed to refer to the large session of the puritans. He must not According carries sneets of the in the dark-bluish 'eye' on the inside of the be identified with the case he studies. It was not that man's fault. It was shell." And under "little neck," the Strictly speaking, while he was on the not my man's fault. It was the fault same authority says "named from a side of the angels, like all great artlocality on the north coast of Long (Little Neck), whence these originally came into favor . . . young, round, hard clams of a size preferred I-and I said other things too, to refer to the absence of the siphon or

> the blue eye or point, and all hard all bivalves of these two classes Blue Points or Little Necks.

Why the point in the Great South Bay is blue I don't know. The Neck is little in comparison with Great Neck, a larger peninsula jutting into the Sound near

#### New York, December 15. A CARTOON. Suggestion Offered to the Masters of

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir. I have had for some time an idea in my head regarding a cartoon. How I wish

I could draw! -but hell, what's the use! I've think of the sorrows of these smaller

"When he reached the castle, his

AMT ARMOUR SMITH, IL A. NEW ROCHELLE, December 15.

### Beaten But Grateful.

From the Corson City News, ballots have been cast and the verdist rendered in favor of my epponent, and in accepting the same I wish to thank woman writer concerning his work the result is synthetic. Miss carry lady whose home I have visited in could not be develd of interest. Miss pointed out that he is not a ren

No Wonder It Costs.

Knicker-What processes does milk un-Booker-It is cowized, farmerized, pas-

Reply to the "Dutch Appeal" l'arentheses .

would refer him to the story of Pitcairn Near heighbers to disaster, tears and

Parcific Press Publishing Company, Oak. Across that tethal wire their conquerors Forblishing pass to safety and to peacetat Melbourne, Australia. Another native Through Proedom only can be Happiness: tive key. When Miss West reserves for his ultimate sincerny

"Go, say we are a Neutral State,

Yes, we have heard! Your witness we

Yes, yes, we know, the "hellish scourge" is flung On many a prestrate land that cannot

Bloody and brutsed past recognition-all! With many braided wraths-unsparingly! I doubt we can refuse their prayer

"Go, say we are too far away-Let others nearer care:") ue-Men of Holland-very true it is. We are the "mightlest of the neutral

Whence faith and strength should lesser states derive . . And-yes! Our S would come Our Spokesman said the time "Neutrality should prove intolerable." Tou are perplexed—you cannot understand.
That time has come, if ever it shall come

But mighty in neutrality remain! (Brothers, more urgent yet the call; 'Go, say at last-say once for all.

### IS PLATO A DEAD ONE! HENRY JAMES SEEN THROUGH ENG. LISH EYES.

The American Born Novelist Discussed by Two Foreign Critics, With Comment by Mr. James Huneker.

ics. In Ford Madox Hueffer's critical reading "The Sacred Fount"? James, a Biography and Critical Esti- glory that is reserved only simply evaded. He was born in Amer- speares, who none the less remain se was rare! That delightful condescenthis isn't such a serious matter, for James. He is almost as American Henry James was a citizen of the Howells. world; but the imputation of a New England birthplace does matter, beperform variations on the theme of he plays his own intellectual instru-Puritanism, the Puritanism of his art. James as a temperamental Puritan- ist doubled by a psychologist. His soword. Apart from the fact that there This is not a than in the middle West, James is not depths there is a moving mass of exa puritan. He does not possess famous New England conscience. He would be the first to repudiate the noment has a "faintly acrid perfume." ity, intellectuality, is a common enough mistake. James never made that misists, he is not a moralist; indeed, he is our first great unmoralist, a term that has supplanted the old fashioned And he wrote the most amoralist unmeral short story in the English language, one that also sets the spine trilling because of its supernatural element as never did Poe nor De

has achieved the pathos of distance, was made a quarter of a century ago by George Moore the has only uttered one joke since, when he called Bernard Shaw the "funny man in a poarding house.") Mr. Moore said: "Henry James went to France and read Turgeney, W. D. Howells stayed lend polgrancy to this mild epigram his crumbling cadences? Not ev Mr. Hueffer misquotes it, substituting the name of De Maupassant for Tur- than whom no writer of the past or genev's. A rather uncanny combina. aged "wheeze" bobs up in the pages of both Miss West and Mr. Hueffer. James, Need we say that it recites the an-cient saw about William James, the the James stories, which are like as fictionist, and his brother Henry, the wnispering gallery, the om reverses psychologist. None of these things is tions of which fill the listening in the least true. With the prudish- He is an 'auditive' as well as a It should represent the Kaiser making ness and peanut piety of puritanism ist," to employ the precious class evertures to Greece. It should represent Henry James has nothing in common tion of the psychiatrists, the Kaiser as the Erl King, and Greece He did not alone read Turgeney, he senses tell him of a v ter of the Erl King would be about as did of Flaubert or Baudelaire; and Mr. recondite;

Another venerable wittlefsm, which

series the cover of which announces one key and end in another. If that the critical estimates are written be pork and molasses or "Thou lovely boy, come play with not by "literary backs" but by "fellow hominy" (George Mercelith's w craftsmen," which is all very well then let it be these delectable when a novelest of the force of Hugh through every course. But Jan-Walpole handles Joseph Conrad. Other- ever in modulation. He to wise, the "literary hack" doesn't make theme builtwise in the air, and out such a lead case for himself critis its spirals spin and leater in the cally. James has certain views con- he weaves a web of gold and lace cerning "lady novellsts," also certain it is marvellously spin. views as to woman's social position, atmospheric than linear. His them-Therefore the opinion of a young shown from a variety of non-less could not be devoid of interest. Miss pointed our that he is not a West patronizes the old gentleman; less analyst. He does not talthe past two weeks in formsby county for West particulates that the still dealy becomes dear old Uncle incohanism of his married to received at their bands while making my Henry, a feeble septimentarian, with lost lets us examine it in compact canvass. It will always remain a fond a weakness for Mrs. Humphry Ward, As a texchologist he stands in the contract of the sad to relate, and the inventor of "The between Stendard and Turgeney Portrait of a Ludy," a hopeless, feeble interprets feeling, rather than fafemale, an almost despicable type. Like our sister planet, the in Nevertheless, we are content with the has his roythmic moments in Isabella Archer of Mr. James and her tion; he then reveals his otto like. What a woman can do and has profoundly human, emotion done in the divination of Henry James is not all frosty intellect. But and his art may be found in Elizabeth in harror the facile expressionable Care's "The Novels of Henry sentiments. It's only too case James." Miss West is worth reading, for those avid of sentimental

if for nothing else but her high spirits, to express what Thomas Hoxes Her critical point of view is rather "sensualistic caterwauling" Mr. Hueffer's is a more pretentleus ment there is room for all life. work. An accomplished craftsman in for a lean or lash statement many literary fields, he writes with au- You may read him in a state of Ours is the Great Tradition that maintains thority, though too often in a superia- low exasperation, but you cann And these for whom you speak are strip; the last page, almost the postscript, lack of substance in his dense y such a statement as "the country such a statement as "the country patterns, for patterns there which ever since he was a student at though the figure be difficult to From us what answer shall they bear? Born he had loathed," you evoke the out. His route of emerald is spirit of Henry James raising deprecating hands and exclaiming: poor, dear, remantic gerts," for what not always avoid naked issuhas the war to do with his works? But thousand and one characters are We vision how those wives and children how he must have winced when he nificantly vital. His is the read in Mr. Hueffer's book that he is shadow land of American fiction (As cattle herded by a driver's lash)
To a slave's drudging 'neath the galling ling things. He bangs balzac over the To use a musical example: her head. He tells the truth about Plau- is like the complicated sort bert, whose "Sentimental Education" latter day composer, and he is an entire Human Comedy. He thinks music, is a solvent. He til of "big business," that "business and bering descriptions, an whatever takes place 'downtown' or mattes, set development And well you say—the scourger should be in the city is simply not worth the ments, mastedonic structureattention of any intelligent being. It sharp savor of character is is a matter of dirty little affairs incom- sent. His very pauses are petently handled by men of the low- He evokes. His barmone the est class of intelligence." This speech into remoter harmonic parthrows light on the mental processes. He composes in every tomain of the English critic, and heaven for-| timity of impression |fend that we should contradict him. When reading him sympatic But all this in a volume about the most one recalls the saying serene and luminous intelligence of our darres: "For an accompli-On us the choice of "leadership" should times! Mr. Hueffer also "goes for" there is but one dialogue. James as critic. He once dared to tween our two eges-the couple the name of the "odious" George ego that we are and the .de. Ellot with Flaubert's. It does rather ward which we strive." For J. take the breath away, but, after all, this interior dialogue, with didn't the tolerant and catholic critic ondary intention" marches like who was Henry James say that no one music through the pages of t s constrained to like any particular period. Henry James will alw ; kind of writing? As to the "cats and touchstone for the taste ess Unless the "mightlest of the neutral states" monkeys, monkeys and cats-all hu-

Knicker-What sort of a reception did | Knicker-How does your wife for a her folks give you?

Bocker-I felt as if I needed a cold

Before us lies an autograph letter man life is there," of "The Madonna rom Henry James to a friend. It is of the Future," we need not take the dated December 26, 1904, and the ad-dress 21 East Eleventh street. It other phrases quoted: "The soul is thus concludes: "I am not one of 'The immortal certainly-if you've got one, Bostonians,' but was born in this city but most people haven't! April 15, 1843. Believe me truly yours, would be right if it were pleasure right Henry James." Although he died a through, but it never is." naturalized Englishman, there seems fer says that James "found English to be some confusion as to his birth- people who were just people singularly place in the minds of his English crit- nasty," and who can say him nay after study, "Henry James," we read on ends on the right note: "And for a man page 95 that the life of James "began to have attained to international rank n New England in 1843"; and in a with phrases intimately national is the little book by Rebecca West, "Henry supreme achievement of writersmate of His Works," the question is Dantes, the Goethes and the Shake. ca in 1843, then a land where culture premely national." Neither Mr. Hoefnor Miss West is in doubt as sion in foreigners is still extant. Now the essential Americanism of Henry

The present writer years ago wrote

of the James art as fiction for the others?-to par excellence. To alter his own word ment to perfection. He is a portraitforest, but an unruffled lake, sun smit the quisite living things. reverberate with the under hum e humanity. We may not exactly a of him as Hazlitt said of Walter Scott: "His works, taken altogether are almost like a new edition of human nature." But we can follow with the coda of that same dictum; "This is indeed to be an author." than the dozen superior persons mentioned by Huysmans enjoy the James novels. His swans are not always im maculate, but they are not "swams of the cesspool," There is never an odor of leaking gas in his premises, as he once remarked of the D'Annunzie fiction. the cosmopolitan soul. There is a Renan, he abhorred the nania of certitude" the writing of his realistic contemp raries. He does not always dot to But the spiritual antenno which h puts forth so tentatively always tou real things, not conjectural. And wha tactile sense he bonsts. He preseldom describes it. His cars are fo overtones, not the brassy harmonies of the obvious, of truths, that and thexible. Yet what novelist has kent hi ear so close to quotidian happening tury ever "rendered" surfaces

Purthermore, has rightly said of him that West's monograph is in a all, they don't like a story to

such impeccable truth with

placable ferecity, is as charveyant a

large, generous curve of his to cal, follow him who dare! A

Diplomacy in the Household.